

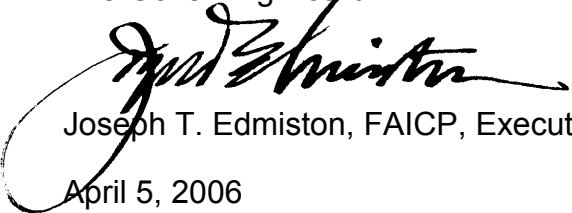


MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens
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Phone (323) 221-9944

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM: 
Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Officer

DATE: April 5, 2006

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item IX : Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant application to the State Coastal Conservancy for projects on Ballona Creek.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing a grant application to the State Coastal Conservancy for projects on Ballona Creek .

Legislative Authority: Joint Exercise of Powers Action (Public Resources Code Section 6500 *et seq.*)

Background: The Ballona Creek Bike Trail extends through the cities of Los Angeles and Culver City, and connects to the Beach Bike Path. The bike path is maintained by the City of Los Angeles, the County of Los Angeles, and the City of Culver City. The facility has not been improved in the 30 years since its installation. Today, the path's entrances are deteriorated, uninviting and unsafe, and most of the signs are either missing or defaced.

The Ballona Creek Bike Trail Restoration project is part of a larger effort to improve the area surrounding Ballona Creek and its adjacent wetlands, and make connections between Ballona Creek and the Baldwin Hills. The subject project proposes to enhance the entire length of the Bike Trail with native landscaping, interpretive signs, park amenities, resurfacing of the trail itself, and eliminating visual clutter where feasible. The MRCA completed improvements to the Centinela Avenue entrance to the Trail in August 2005. Design of improvements to three other entrances is in progress. These projects were funded through grants from California State Parks and Prop A.

The MRCA will be applying to the State Coastal Conservancy for funds to continue restoration of the trail. The State Coastal Conservancy funding could be used in all of the jurisdictions that the trail extends through.